ABOUT OUR CAMP DIRECTOR

Camp KidZone Director: Johnny Gallagher



Director Bio:

Hello there! My name is Johnny Gallagher and I am the director of Camp KidZone! This is my first summer with Northampton Parks and Recreation. With me, I bring two summers of residential and day camp experience and over five years of supervisory experience. I also have a variety of experience working with children who have developmental disabilities and disorders. I'm originally from Langhorne, PA (a suburb of Philadelphia), though I have been in Amherst for the past four years in pursuit of my B.S. in Communication Disorders and B.A. in Linguistics and Spanish at UMass Amherst. I'm excited to be graduating in May and even more—to be moving to southern California this coming fall for my Masters degree in Speech-Language Pathology at San Diego State University! At SDSU, I plan to focus on how to best identify and treat language disorders in children who are bilingual. In my spare time, I enjoy crafting, staying active through exercise and running, and spending time with family and friends.

Questions for the Director:

What are you looking forward to as the new Camp KidZone Director?

There's so much to be looking forward to! I love Western Massachusetts, I love summer, I love working with children, and I love planning (one of my mentors refers to me as her "executive function"). I look forward to mentoring this year's counselors and using my skillset and interests to make this a wonderful summer for all involved: staff, parents, and most importantly, the campers!

What do you enjoy most about working with children?

My favorite thing about working with children is how much laughter you can share! Even after a long day at camp, when I'm so exhausted and all I want to do is lie down until the next morning... I can always think of a reason that I laughed that day!

What is your favorite Camp game?

My favorite camp game is Basketball. I used to play travel basketball in middle school and I still have some moves! So, I like to play with my campers and surprise them with some stiff competition!

Enjoy your summer!!!

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